

August in New Hampshire

From August 4 through August 12, the town of Manchester and its environs become an antiques collector's paradise



With its numerous state parks, sparkling lakes, sandy beaches, and historic sites and attractions, New Hampshire is an ideal summer destination for the family. But as serious antiques and collectors will attest, New Hampshire—particularly in August—hosts some of the best antiques shows in the country. From the granddaddy of all shows—the venerable, 49-year-old New Hampshire Antiques Dealers Show (Aug. 10–12), with its museum-quality furniture, folk art, and collectibles—to the Bedford Pickers Market Antiques Show (Aug. 11), where the dealers themselves shop, Antiques Week in and around Manchester is the place to be. *Country Living's* executive editor, Lawrence Bilotti, and “What Is It? What Is It Worth?” contributor, Helaine Fendelman, scouted the shows last year to spot the trends. While these items represent the market's high end, there is, indeed, something for everyone's budget. >

Serious collectors arrive early to the New Hampshire Antiques Dealers Show, which can mean lining up the night before it opens.



our scouts

At the Bedford Pickers Market, Larry and Helaine (left) found a '50s bentwood child's rocker (\$300) from Bob & Priscilla Brown Antiques. A patriotic folk-art display (above) was seen at the booth of Thomas Thompson at the New Hampshire Antiques Show, where shoppers (right) browse room settings. SEE SHOPPING GUIDE FOR DETAILS.

our "top five" trend report



DIORAMAS

The scarcity of early nautical dioramas—ship models (above) in shadow boxes—is making them highly valued. The one shown here from Paul J. DeCoste Antiques, with its three-ship display, is from the 1880s and priced at \$4,500.



PATRIOTIC

America shows its colors with vintage flags, folk art, paintings, and various artifacts. This rare mid-19th-century eagle-decorated drum (above) with original blue-paint background is from Cheryl & Paul Scott Antiques and priced at \$6,800.

MEMORY JUGS

Vessels encrusted with costume jewelry, buttons, glass, coins, and trinkets (below) have been spotted before, but few like the two oversized examples from Carl Hammer Gallery (left to right, \$4,500 and \$2,500).



FAMILY HISTORIES

An 1835 sampler (above) from Stephen & Carol Huber was priced at \$23,000. Why the high value? Apart from its fine condition, the sampler is signed by its maker, 11-year-old Susan Elliot Newton of the founding family of Newton, Mass.

CHILDREN'S CHAIRS

If you have your childhood chair, consider retrieving it from the attic, dusting it, and having it appraised. A 19th-century stenciled chair (below) from Caroline Edleman was priced at \$395.



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- **AUGUST 8** Americana Celebration Antiques Show, Deerfield Fairgrounds. 18th- and 19th-century furniture. nangurley.com.
- **AUGUST 8-9** Start of Manchester Antiques Show, the Event Center at C.R. Sparks, Bedford. Formal antiques. flamingoshows.com.
- **AUGUST 8-10** Riverside Antiques Show, Best Western, Manchester. 65 dealers of 18th- to 19th-century antiques. forbesandturner.com.
- **AUGUST 9-10** Mid★Week in Manchester Antiques Show, Quality Inn. Variety of folk art. barnstar.com.
- **AUGUST 10-12** N.H. Antiques Show, Radisson Hotel, Manchester. Fine furniture. nhada.org.
- **AUGUST 11** Bedford Pickers Market Antiques Show, Quality Inn, Bedford. Country and formal furniture, and folk art. barnstar.com.